



DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES
October 2, 2007

Contact: Nicole Winger
(916) 653-6575

MEDIA ADVISORY

Secretary of State's Office to Host Rare Behind-the-Scenes Media Tour of California State Archives

WHAT: California's chief archivist, Nancy Zimmerman Lenoil, will lead a rare, behind-the-scenes media tour of the California State Archives to preview this weekend's Archives Open House.

As the custodian of the Archives, Secretary of State Debra Bowen maintains the complete records of the official acts of the legislative and executive branches of state government, as well as a treasure trove of Golden State history, including the original California state constitution, historical books and recordings, and other items relevant to California's history.

October is California Archives Month and the media tour is a preview to an October 6 open house, which is expected to attract several hundred people.

Visuals will include:

- **"The Stacks," where hundreds of shelves, cabinets and safes hold California's treasures in secure, climate-controlled rooms;**
- **Historical road signs and maps, a San Quentin State Prison mug book, and an 1800s-era check register from the State Controller's office; and**
- **Archives preservationists working to repair artifacts for proper display and storage.**

Because space is limited, credentialed media are encouraged to reserve their place on the media tour by calling the Secretary of State's Communications Office.

WHEN: Thursday, October 4, 2007
10:30 a.m.

WHERE: California State Archives
4th Floor (above The California Museum for History, Women and the Arts)
1020 O Street
Sacramento

###